

MARCUS SHELBY ORCHESTRA

BLACK BALL

THE NEGRO LEAGUES AND THE BLUES

OUTLAWED BY BASEBALL!

The Crime of the Big Leagues!

The newspapers have carefully hushed it up!

One of the most sordid stories in American sports!

Though they win laurels for America in the Olympics—though they have proven themselves outstanding baseball stars—Negroes have been placed beyond the pale of the American and National Leagues.

Read the truth about this carefully laid conspiracy!

Beginning next Sunday the SUNDAY WORKER will rip the veil from the "Crime of the Big Leagues"—mentioning names, giving facts, sparing none of the most sacred figures in baseball officialdom.



STARTING IN THE AUGUST 16th ISSUE OF THE

SUNDAY WORKER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018, 1PM

FREE * YERBA BUENA GARDENS FESTIVAL

Mission St between 3rd & 4th Sts., San Francisco, CA

BLACK BALL: THE NEGRO LEAGUES AND THE BLUES

BARNSTORMIN'

BLACK BALL BLUES: UMPIRE'S ARIA

TRANSITIONS: PITTSBURG CRAWFORDS

TRANSITIONS: NEW YORK CUBANS

BLACK BALL BOOGIE

BLACK BALL SWING

EFFA'S BLUES

DID YOU SEE JACKIE ROBINSON HIT THAT BALL?

In his latest YBG Festival commission, composer Marcus Shelby delves into the glorious, uplifting and heartbreak story of African-Americans and the national pastime during the Jim Crow era with "*Black Ball: The Negro Leagues and the Blues*." An 80-minute composition written for the Marcus Shelby Orchestra, vocalists, and narrator, "*Black Ball*" is inspired by the character, love, courage, brilliance, failure, and humor of Negro League players who made far-reaching but oft-overlooked contributions to American life during the years from Reconstruction through the 1950s.



MARCUS SHELBY (Music) is a bandleader, composer, arranger, bassist, educator, and activist who lives in San Francisco, California. Currently, Shelby is an artist in residence with the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival and the Artistic Director of the Marcus Shelby Orchestra. In 2013, Shelby received a MAP Fund Award and commission from the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival to compose *Beyond the Blues: A Prison Oratorio*, an original composition for big band orchestra about the "Prison Industrial Complex," which premiered in September 2015.

Other works include *Soul of the Movement*—a musical suite on MLK and the Civil Rights Movement (2009) and *Harriet Tubman*—a musical suite based on the life of freedom fighter, Harriet Tubman (2006). Shelby has also worked extensively in Bay Area theater, film, and dance on a range of productions, such as Anna Deveare Smith's new play *Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education* (2014), *Dying While Black and Brown* (2014), *Bebop Baby* (2013), *Sonny's Blues* (2008), the Oakland Ballet's *Ella* (2004), Robert Moses Kin' Dance Company (2000), The Pacific Boy Choir (2009), The San Francisco Girls Choir (2013), The Oakland Youth Chorus (2014), and many other productions over the past 19 years in the San Francisco Bay Area. Shelby has also led many of the San Francisco Jazz Festival Family Matinee Concerts, often with children's book author Daniel Handler (Lemony Snicket). In March 2013, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee appointed Shelby to the San Francisco Arts Commission where he serves on the Community Arts Grants and Education Committee and the Street Artists Committee.



VAL HENDRICKSON (Book) Previous work as a dramatist: *Figuratively Speaking* (United Solo/NYC, Shotgun Players, SF Fringe) and *Conversation with a Cupboard Man* (Ohio Theatre/NYC, Climate Theatre/SF). New works currently in development: *Custer/ p t s d* and *The Silverado Squatters*. Decades of experience as a stage director include Marcus Shelby collaborations: *The Lights* (ODC/Intersection), *Suicide in B-Flat* (3rd Set), *Hellhound On My Trail* (Campo Santo), *King Lear* (Guerilla Shakespeare).

BLACK BALL

THE NEGRO LEAGUES AND THE BLUES

Music By **MARCUS SHELBY** Book By **VAL HENDRICKSON**

DONALD LACY	Announcer
MARCUS SHELBY	as himself
MUJAHID ABDUL-RASHID	Rube Foster/Umpire
KIM NALLEY	Effa Manley
JAZMINE PIERCE	Les Rodney
L. PETER CALLENDER	Satchel Paige
TIFFANY AUSTIN	Toni Stone
MICHAEL MOHAMMED	Jackie Robinson
TRISTAN CUNNINGHAM	Clown 1
KEINAN WOODSON	Clown 2
DAMARI GILBERT	Clown 3
PATRICK WU, CHRIS WONG	Security Guards

MARCUS SHELBY ORCHESTRA

Alto/Flute: Kristen Strom
Alto: Tom Griesser
Tenor/Clarinet: Patrick Wolff
Tenor: Danny Brown
Baritone: Fil Lorenz
Trombone: Rob Ewing
Trombone: Charles Hamilton
Trombone: Ryan Black
Trumpet: Bill Thereur
Trumpet: Bill Ortiz
Trumpet: Kate Williams
Piano: Adam Shulman
Bass: Tomoko Funaki
Drums: Jeff Marrs
Tenor Sax: James Mahone
Conductor: Marcus Shelby

PRODUCTION

Andi Wong: Project Manager
Tristan Cunningham: Choreographer

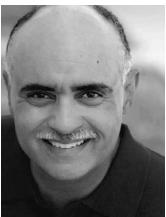
YERBA BUENA GARDENS FESTIVAL

Linda Lucero, Executive/Artistic Director
Steve Cho, Events Director
Alice Lin, Communications Director
Marcelo Aviles, Program Manager
Cristina Ibarra, Events Manager
Raul Panzar, Social Media Coordinator

BLACK BALL: THE NEGRO LEAGUES AND THE BLUES



DONALD LACY
ANNOUNCER



MUJAHID ABDUL-RASHID
RUBE POSTER/UMPIRE



KIM NALLEY
EFFA MANLEY



JAZMINE PIERCE
LES RODNEY



L. PETER CALLENDER
SATCHEL PAIGE



TIFFANY AUSTIN
TONI STONE



MICHAEL MOHAMMED
JACKIE ROBINSON



TRISTAN CUNNINGHAM
CLOWN 1



KEINAN WOODSON
CLOWN 2



DAMARI GILBERT
CLOWN 3

Composer's Note: I want to thank Linda Lucero and the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival for the opportunity and support for *Black Ball: The Negro Leagues and the Blues*. I also want to thank my collaborators on this project Val Hendrickson (book), Andi Wong (design), and all of the wonderful artists who performed. Lastly, I'd like to thank The MAP fund, The Kansas City Negro League Museum, The Society for American Baseball Research, Marty Lurie and KNBR, Rickey Johnson of D.C.'s Sportstop who provided us with uniforms, my baseball daughter Billie Shelby and Willie Mays. This piece is dedicated to all the amazing Negro League baseball players who never got a shot to play in the MLB---Marcus Shelby

PRESENTED WITH SUPPORT FROM

M A P F U N D



The MAP Fund, supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM

City & County of San Francisco

Yerba Buena Gardens Conservancy



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